REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 9 to 14, 19 to 22 are pending in the application, of which claims 1, 10, and 19 are independent. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,522,640 (Liebenow); and claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 22 were rejected under §103 over Liebenow. As shown above, Applicants have amended the claims to more define the invention more clearly. In view of these amendments, withdrawal of the art rejections over Liebenow is respectfully requested.

Each of independent claims 1, 10, and 19 has been amended to specify that that base unit is in communication with a telephone line, receives an original signal from the telephone line, and generates a data signal for transmission via analog frequency modulation without performing analog-to-digital conversion on the original signal from the telephone line. Liebenow is not understood to disclose or to suggest these features of the independent claims.

More specifically, referring to Fig. 2, Liebenow shows a modem 21 in communication with a base station 78. The base station includes a telephone connector 44 for interfacing to a telephone line, a CODEC 40, a DAA 42, a radio digital section 48, and a radio analog section 50. CODEC 40 digitizes an analog signal from the telephone line and passes that signal to radio digital section 48. Radio digital section 48 adds appropriate error correction data to the signal and passes the resulting digital signal to radio analog

section 50. Radio analog section 50 converts the digital signal to an analog signal and sends the analog signal over a wireless link to modem 21.

Thus, Liebenow does not describe generating a data signal for transmission via analog frequency modulation *without performing analog-to-digital conversion on the original signal from the telephone line.* Rather, Liebenow describes analog frequency modulation of a digital signal that is derived from the original telephone line signal.

The foregoing distinction is not trivial for at least the following reasons. The claimed invention is more cost effective than Liebenow, since it does not require the analog-digital-analog conversion performed by Liebenow. Fewer conversions requires less processing, less chance of introducing errors into the signal, and less complex circuitry. In this regard, signal conversion, such as that performed by Liebenow, may add additional quantization noise, resulting in overall signal degradation.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 10, and 19, and the claims that depend therefrom, are believed to be patentable over Liebenow.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Please apply any deficiencies in fees for this Amendment and the accompany Petition to Deposit Account No. 06-1050 referencing 12203-002001.

Applicants' attorney can be reached at the address shown above. Telephone calls regarding this application should be directed to 617-521-7896.

Respectfully submitted,

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